

## **FACT SHEET**

### **REVISED RULE TO REDUCE TOXIC AIR EMISSIONS FROM SECONDARY ALUMINUM PRODUCTION FACILITIES**

#### **TODAY'S ACTION**

- ! The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is amending its rule (issued in March 2000) to control emissions of toxic air pollutants from secondary aluminum production facilities. Secondary aluminum plants recover aluminum from scrap such as aluminum beverage cans, car body parts, doors, siding and other aluminum scrap.
- ! Today's amendments implement settlement agreements between EPA and industry trade associations, including The Aluminum Association and The American Foundrymen's Society, by resolving compliance issues that arose after the rule went into effect.
- ! The amendments clarify compliance dates for meeting rule requirements, conducting performance tests, and submitting a notification of compliance status. EPA has also included more detailed procedures for submitting of an operation, maintenance, and monitoring plan.
- ! Today's amendments defer the compliance date for new affected sources at an existing aluminum die casting facility, foundry, or extrusion facility is deferred until completion of a separate rulemaking that includes a number of substantive clarifications and revisions in the emission limitations, monitoring, performance testing, notification and recordkeeping requirements.

#### **HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**

- ! Secondary aluminum plants emit a variety of toxic air pollutants. Toxic air pollutants, also known as air toxics, are those pollutants known or suspected of causing cancer or other serious health effects. The compounds emitted vary by facility and process operation but include antimony, arsenic, lead, manganese, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, mercury, nickel, selenium, dioxins, furans, polycyclic organic matter, and acid gases such as hydrogen chloride and chlorine. The March 2000 rule reduces emissions of these compounds.
- ! Today's amendments will not change the health and environmental effects of the rule, and they will not change the requirement that area sources and new and existing major sources control air toxics emissions.

### **COST OF THE AMENDMENTS**

- ! No additional costs are associated with the amendments.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- ! To download a copy of the amendments, go to EPA's World Wide Web site at *<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/>* under newly proposed or promulgated rules.
- ! For further information about the amendments, contact Mr. John Schaefer of EPA's Minerals and Inorganic Chemicals Group at (919) 541-0296 or *[schaefer.john@epa.gov](mailto:schaefer.john@epa.gov)*.
- ! EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's homepage on the internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program, as well as many other air pollution programs and issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: *<http://www.epa.gov/oar/>*.